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Sisters in Arms

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Sisters in Arms

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This is a call for strength between my sisters
The womxn whose words have been left unheard

Hear *us*
See *us*
The struggle is your own but it is not singular
The struggle is connected through *us*

Our brains develop one and the same, regardless of what our biology says
Our sisterhood is not defined by what is between where *we* walk
Our sisterhood is defined by what *we* create
Our community, *our* safety, is defined by the walls *we* choose to build
And the ones *we* chose to break down

As sisters, *we* must recognize each other
Empower each other
When *our* sisters are hurt *we* must hurt too
Your name is *our* name
Your truth is *our* truth
Your struggle is *our* struggle
For *we* are sisters in arms

The words of the people who decide
That the shoes we wear are stepped on
Not because of *our* potential
But because of the womxn who wear them
We will not lose stride

When *we* stand together
When *we* hold hands
We become unstoppable
For *we* are sisters in arms

When *we* bring awareness to *our* underrepresentation
And the disproportionate lack of success
And the misrepresentation of *our* bodies
And the constant struggle not to compete
And the barriers put in front of *us* by those who call *us* other
We become dangerous
For *we* are sisters in arms

It's time *we* break their perception mirrors
Although *we* have different chapters with various stories, *we* are within a book of
commonality, oppression, and underrepresentation

United *we* stand
As sisters *we* are
For *we* are the sisters in arms

Author Notes

Liliana Delgado is a second-year undergraduate student at Iowa State University with a major in mathematics and minor in physics. A lot of her activism is tied to the inclusion and equity of womxn of color in the STEM fields.

Morgan Godwin is a senior in elementary education with endorsements in reading, mathematics, and coaching.

Kathryn Post is a culinary food science major at Iowa State University. This poem brought forth a lot of feelings she has had and found the process of creating it incredibly rewarding. She has plans to continue into the culinary world and to make it much more diverse and welcoming.

Wendell Lee, Jr. is from Oneonta, NY. At the time of publication, he was a graduating senior with a Bachelor's of Arts in political science.

Tatiana Tankhai is a sophomore majoring in political science at Iowa State University.